

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

18th February, 1961

SPRING IS ROUND THE CORNER



An enthusiastic visitor to a Hertfordshire nursery stacks bunches of forsythia newly-cut for market

WINTERING ON THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

Nine tough mountaineers are spending the Winter at a height of 19,000 feet in the Himalayas. They are conducting a practical experiment into the effect of prolonged exposure to rarefied air and extreme cold. Six doctors are among them. All are members of Sir Edmund Hillary's expedition which will later attempt to scale Mount Makalu (27,824 feet) without oxygen equipment. It remains to be seen whether the men who have wintered on the heights prove to be fitter than those who have come from low altitudes.

Wild life in Moscow

Moscow's wild creatures are to be carefully preserved. All hunting within the city's Green Belt is now forbidden, except where necessary for the control of certain wild animals. Linnets and thrushes, or any other birds, can no longer be caught in the woods and sold in cages in the markets. The collecting of birds' eggs is banned. Moscow's huge pigeon population is also to be protected.

ANGLER CAUGHT

When ten-year-old Stephen Grimble of Repps, Norfolk, went fishing the other day he himself was the catch. He slipped into a dyke while crossing a bridge near Potter Heigham and was hauled out by a young friend with the aid of his fishing rod.

White sails in the sunshine



Members of the Ranelagh Yacht Club of London massed for the start of a race on the Thames at Putney. It is near this spot that the University Boat Race starts.

ON THE EVE OF MAN'S FIRST SPACE FLIGHT

Getting ready for the great adventure

By Lieut.-Colonel John Glenn, one of the seven United States astronauts

As the whole world now knows, United States scientists have rocketed a chimpanzee 155 miles high above the Earth, and have brought it back alive and well. This spectacular achievement was another stage in the plans for sending a man into space. It has brought us a step nearer to the goal of Project Mercury—the launching of one of the seven astronauts who since 1959 have been undergoing vigorous training for the great adventure of a journey into the unknown.

One of those seven men, Lieut.-Colonel John Glenn, here tells us about some of that training, and of the thoughts in his mind as the great day draws nearer; thoughts of the day when he or one of his six fellow astronauts gets ready for that first lone voyage far beyond our earthly frontiers.

WE all learned in test flying (writes John Glenn), long before getting into Project Mercury, that development programmes always take more time than is hoped at the outset.

Considering the great complexity of detail to be worked out, Project Mercury has moved ahead with real speed. The development of the capsule, the creation of training devices, the institution of world-wide radar and tracking stations, have all come from nothing to near-readiness in a very short time.

We still need some 48-hour days and 10-day weeks to get ahead as fast as we would like to, but the record is generally excellent.

Wonderful device

Certainly our training has not been affected by the delays. Our sharpness only increases with time.

One especially valuable training device has just recently been completed for us. Called the flight-procedures trainer, it is an enormously complex apparatus consisting of a mock-up capsule whose control, safety, and communications systems are connected to computers and control panels.

Almost any action, emergency, or routine can be electronically simulated on the trainer and we spend hours going through computer-directed "flights" that include every possible situation. Each of us now reacts almost



Lieut.-Colonel John Glenn

instinctively to whatever danger signals might flash on the instrument panel before us. Because one of these machines is installed at Cape Canaveral and is connected with the Mercury control centre, the men who will be monitoring our real flights can get practice on the same problems, routine, or emergency, working from their command stations.

One of the greatest benefits to us is the right degree of psychological preparation for the mission. I give the whole matter a great deal of thought. When the time comes and if I am chosen, I want to feel as if I have been through the whole thing many, many times before.

For this reason I have tried to see as many missile firings as possible from Cape Canaveral. A rocket launching is a pretty awesome thing to watch, and because I do not want to be particularly awed at actually being part of one, I watch all I can.

Before dawn

As much as I am able, just thinking by myself or lying in bed at night before I go to sleep, I try to pre-live the experience which lies ahead. I try to visualise the whole day.

I think of myself getting up that morning, still in darkness, and meeting Flight-Surgeon Bill Douglas to get suited-up for the mission. In imagination I get into the pressure suit very carefully. There must be no snags in the material that day and I notice more anxiety in the people around me than I feel in myself.

Two hours before the launching Dr. Douglas and I climb into a small van. I step out into the bright glare of the lights around the rocket. I take the elevator up the gantry and get off at the top. I climb gingerly through the narrow openings in the capsule's side and settle into the couch. A lot of friendly hands are busy making

sure that every connection is precisely made.

The hatch closes and is bolted in place. I am by myself.

Through the countdown I am busy making sure that all the instruments and systems are working properly. Near the end I can see a little dawn light brightening the sky in my window. It will be full day when I hit the sea.

At launch-time minus 45 seconds, I hear the connection drop away from the booster, and the count moves along quickly now. "Five . . . four . . . three . . . two . . . one . . ."

The growing roar

I hear the booster engine ignite 60 feet beneath me and the capsule begins to tremble under the huge thrust. Through the growing roar comes a radio voice, another astronaut calling to me from the blockhouse.

"Lift off," he says, telling me that I am starting to move. I check the instrument that tells me the sequence of my automatic systems has begun.

"Lift off," I call back. "Clock operating." And I reach up to adjust a little mirror so that I can watch the Earth receding . . .

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TOP MEN



Wearing safety belts, these two men are helping to complete the electrification of the East Siberian Railway.

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BRITAIN'S HEALTH SERVICE

Change in ways of paying the bill

By the C N Parliamentary Correspondent

The National Health Service of Britain is the biggest and best in the world; and, of course, it costs a great deal of money. In the financial year now coming to an end it will cost £867,000,000—about one-seventh of our total Budget expenditure.

Taxpayers contribute £663,000,000 of this sum. The rest is provided by local ratepayers, by a contribution deducted weekly from wages and salaries, and by payments from patients using particular equipment or services for which a charge is made.

These funds give us medical and nursing facilities, dental treatment, specialist care, and a host of welfare aids and benefits.

THE National Health Service was set up by Acts of Parliament in 1946-1948. The Acts provided what was called a "free" health service but, of course, it is free only in the sense that schoolchildren and infants or poor people are not deprived of it because they cannot contribute to it. Their share is paid for indirectly by the rest of the nation.

Special charges

When the service was founded it was free in the sense that nobody had to pay anything over and above weekly contributions. Then the scheme was amended at various times so that special extra charges could be made for certain parts of the service. For example, for some years a fee of one shilling has been charged for each separate item prescribed by the doctor.

Now higher charges are on the way. From 1st March the prescription charge will be doubled to 2s. Weekly contributions will rise from 1st July. There will be a general increase, too, in payments towards the cost of dentures, spectacles, and private beds in hospitals. Payments will also

have to be made by individuals towards the cost of certain vitamin foods which are now free of charge.

What is the official reason for this? By putting more of the Health Service bill on to private persons, our Minister of Health, Mr. Enoch Powell, expects to save the taxpayers some £65,000,000 a year. But even a saving of this size will not offset an estimated rise of 11 per cent. in the cost of the Health Service next year.

Provision for the health of the nation is, of course, only one of the branches of our social services, others being education, housing, national insurance, and various welfare activities on behalf of young people and the aged.

Centuries-old spirit

But the Health Service attracts most attention and interest. In spirit it is centuries old. Its real founders were the monks and nuns of early times, who provided infirmaries for the sick. But after the dissolution of the monasteries great distress grew among the poorer classes.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I steps were taken towards

enforcing the principle of State responsibility for the sick and poor. In 1601 the "poor law" system was founded for England and Wales, to help the sick, needy, and homeless from local rates. But it took a long time to persuade everyone that this was a just and necessary system.

A few hospitals were founded during the 18th century, and kept going by voluntary subscriptions. But the Industrial Revolution brought appalling miseries and suffering with it. Slowly the old suspicion of Government interference broke down. A growing measure of State control became possible.

Important landmark

An important landmark was reached with the passage of the Public Health Act in 1848. From that time the concern of the State with the nation's health has gradually grown through the provision of pure water, of sewerage, refuse disposal, and street cleaning as well as the passing of laws to protect the quality of food.

Side by side with all this, local councils built smallpox and other isolation hospitals and poor law infirmaries in the 19th century, but the major medical services were provided by voluntary hospitals and private practitioners until the present century.

Today Britain has a National Health Service second to none, anywhere in the world. Whatever changes may be made in financing it, the bill is bound to be enormous. But who can measure its value in terms of illness cured, suffering alleviated, and lives saved?

The Old Lady gets a medal

Mrs. Kitty Brushwood is the proudest lady in Leeds.

Ever since 1907, when she was 13, Mrs. Brushwood has been a cleaner at the Carlton Barracks in Leeds. In that time she has scrubbed mile after mile of floors and has worn out hundreds of brushes and mops; and always she has been a shining example of a willing and cheerful worker. Now she has been awarded the British Empire Medal for her long and faithful service to the Army and for the cheerfulness and pleasant manners that "have endeared her to successive generations of volunteers."

On the great day of the presentation the band played, and nearly 200 officers and men of the 7th Leeds Rifle Battalion were on parade, as Mrs. Brushwood stood to attention to receive her medal from Major-General Lord Thurlow.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Agricultural machinery worth £128,000,000 was exported from Britain last year—a record.

FOUND IN A HAYSTACK

While building a great haystack on a farm near Shaftesbury two years ago, a man lost his watch. It came to light when the stack was being cut the other day—and still works.

In danger of famine because of bad harvests, China has bought over a million tons of wheat and barley from Canada, and a million tons of wheat and 40,000 tons of flour from Australia.

An automatic pencil-sharpener will be on view at the Stationery Trade Fair which is being held in London next week. The pencil just has to be held in the machine and a battery-driven motor does the rest. It costs 75s.

Carrying equipment for photographing an ice-melting device at work, two American divers swam beneath eight feet of ice for nearly half an hour at McMurdo Sound, Antarctica.

Finishing touch



President Kennedy's wax figure has now joined the company of the famous at Madame Tussaud's. Here it is getting a finishing touch from one of the staff.

A seven-year-old boy caught a pike weighing 26 lb. at Hemingford Grey, Huntingdonshire.

SOS TO A.A.

The Automobile Association answered over half a million breakdown calls last year—an average of nearly one a minute. Flat tyres and flat batteries were the most frequent troubles.

THEY SAY . . .

If you do your job as well as possible and become a complete master of all its phases, then you will have achieved both the pinnacle of success and your objective.

Mr. V. W. Pilkington, of Leyland Motors, addressing apprentices.

A recent picture of Prince Andrew, who will be one year old on Sunday.

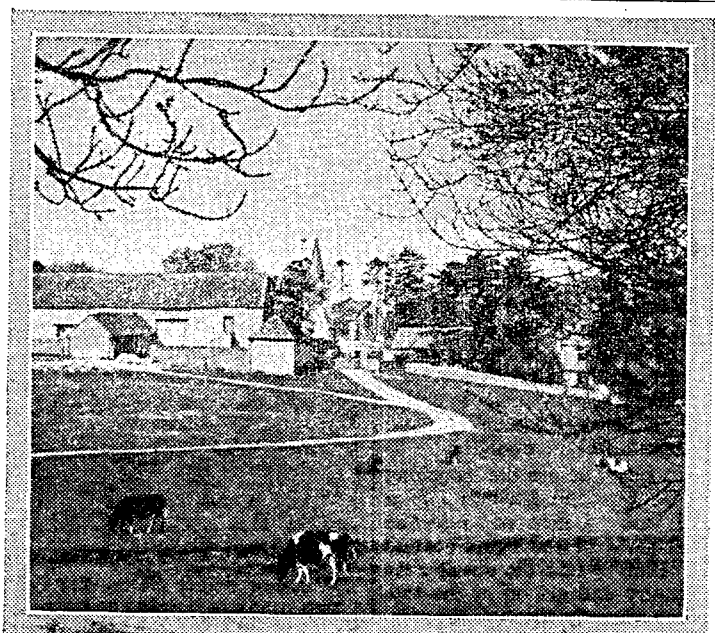
Ipswich Natural History Society is to spend £70 on trees for local parks.

No fewer than 500 students from the United Arab Republic are now at universities in Britain.

STAND-IN FOR A STAR

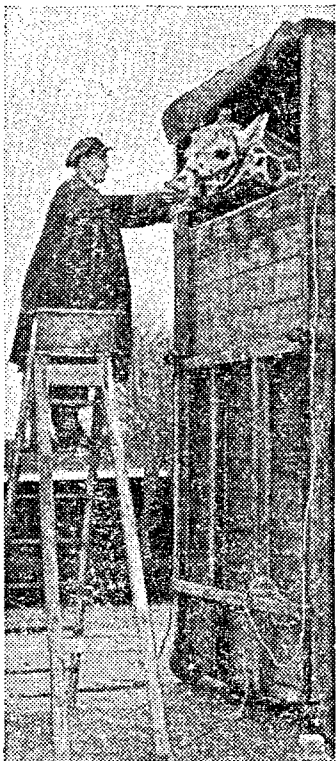


Like other film stars, the Skye terrier who plays the title role in Walt Disney's picture *Greystars Bobby* has a stand-in, or deputy. His name is Jerry.



OUR HOMELAND A delightful corner of the Gloucestershire village of Aldsworth

HIGH TEA



This Chessington Zoo giraffe, boxed up ready for a journey, had to be fed from a step-ladder.

Student help for the Congo

Britain's 200,000 students are making a big effort this month and next to raise at least £30,000 for relief work in the Congo. They are holding sales of work and auctions, and earning money by doing such odd jobs as baking cakes, washing cars, and cleaning shoes.

Among the sponsors of their campaign are Herb Elliott, the world mile record-holder, and the Rev. David Sheppard, former England cricketer. The chairman of the appeal's organising committee is Mr. Alan Hale, secretary of the National Union of Students.

Gifts so far received include an anonymous one of £1,000.

THE CLOP OF CLOG

The clop of the clog, or wooden shoe, along the cobbled streets of our northern industrial towns is a less familiar sound today than it used to be. But a lot of people still wear clogs and there are still several firms manufacturing them.

A Halifax firm of clog-makers which has celebrated its 50th anniversary still sells between 900 and 1,000 pairs a week.

Many industrial workers use clogs because they last well and give more protection to the feet than leather. There are special safety clogs approved by the British Standards Institute.

Some present-day clogs have rubber soles, and there are women's clogs in red, blue, brown, or green leather, and small clogs for children.

Dictionary in 32 volumes

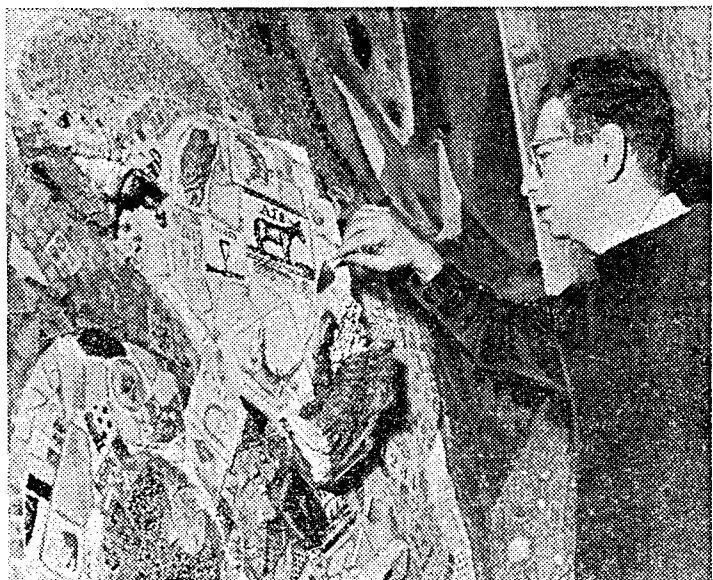
More than a century ago the Grimm Brothers, famed for their fairy tales, set themselves the huge task of compiling a dictionary containing every German word used since the 16th century. They died without finishing it, and the work was carried on by others until the Second World War. It was resumed afterwards by both East and West German experts, and now at last the dictionary is complete—in 32 volumes.

Boat-builder at 15

Robert Timms, a 15-year-old of Eardisley, Herefordshire, has just built his third boat, a 15-foot craft powered by an 8 h.p. car engine. It will be named *Concord*.

Like the earlier boats, this one was designed and built entirely by Robert in a shed at his home. There he also makes all his own die castings, and buys all his materials—timber, engines, and so on—with his own pocket-money.

Magic garden on a wall



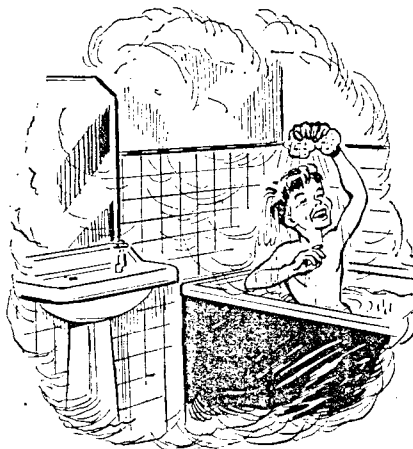
A wonderful mosaic called The Magic Garden is being made for a school in Fulham, London. The artist, Mr. Francis Carr, seen at work here, has used tiles, pieces of marble, tree bark, and shells to get his effects.

MR THERM'S ABC

Issued by the Gas Council.

Gas plays a highly important part in the world today, and Mr. Therm is always on the go, in thousands of different ways. Here are just some of the things he does.

V is for the enormous **VARIETY** of uses to which Mr. Therm is put in the world today. There's no limit to his versatility. Perhaps the side we all know best is the gas we use in our homes, the clean, efficient fuel which cooks our meals, and heats our houses. But though this is very important, it's only part of Mr. Therm's work. He's like an iceberg, of which only one tenth is seen above the water. Perhaps the most wonderful thing about Mr. Therm is the variety of products made from coal. Over 27,400,000 tons of coal are carbonised at the gas works every year, and from this enormous amount comes creosote for preserving wood, coal tar for making scent and nylon, dyes for postage stamps and clothes, benzole for paints and D.D.T. It's true to say that there's no side of life in which Mr. Therm doesn't play a part. Wonderful Mr. Therm!



W is for **WATER HEATING**, a very important activity of Mr. Therm's in the home. With gas you can be sure of hot water all the time—but only with gas. There's only one way to be sure you have all the hot water you want, when you want it, and that's with an instantaneous gas water heater. Gas heats the water as it flows through the pipe. There is no need for a storage tank. With gas, you just turn on the hot water tap, and even if you run it for 24 hours, the water will never get cold. You can also, if you want, have a gas storage water heater. It's cheap to run, convenient and very simple. One popular size of this heater holds 15 gallons of water. There are also small types of storage water heaters which are very handy at the kitchen sink. Just another way in which Mr. Therm makes Mummy's household tasks lighter.

DON'T MISS OUR SUPER COMPETITION!



HERE'S WHAT TO DO

Add one letter in place of each dot to complete the words in the panels—they are all objects to be found in the picture.

List the six answers neatly on a post-card, add your full name, age and address, then post it to:

Mr. Therm's A.B.C. No. 8, Children's Newspaper, 3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.).

Mr. Therm will award £2 2s. Book Tokens for the three neatest correct entries (with writing according to age taken into consideration) received by Friday, 24th February.

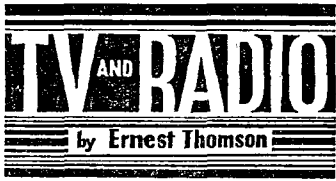
MORE A.B.C. WINNERS!

The three winners of Mr. Therm's A.B.C. Competition No. 3 were Linda Funston of Bath, Elizabeth James of Oxford, and Hedley Cooper of Wootton Bassett.

G · S · C · O · K · R	· A · L · E	S · A · C · P · A ·
K · N · F ·	C · K ·	· C · L · S



COOKING AND HEATING BY GAS IS EASY AS A·B·C



PLENTY OF PROBLEMS

Popular Q and A

ADRIAN THOMAS, who ran the *Write Me a Letter* series in BBC Children's Hour, is delighted with the success of his new venture, *Q and A*.

"This is a new monthly personal information service," he told me. "Since the first programme on 16th January, questions and answers have been coming in at a gratifying rate. It has quite touched me to realise what a lot of people are anxious to help others."

In Edition No. 2 next Monday, Adrian Thomas will be answering many of the personal problems which boys and girls have sent in, and reading out the answers supplied by other listeners. "A surprising number of adults listen to the programme," he said.

Said Mr. Thomas: "Each month I shall finish with quick answers to practical questions, such as 'Why does gum stick?'"

The young Bastables out to restore the family fortune

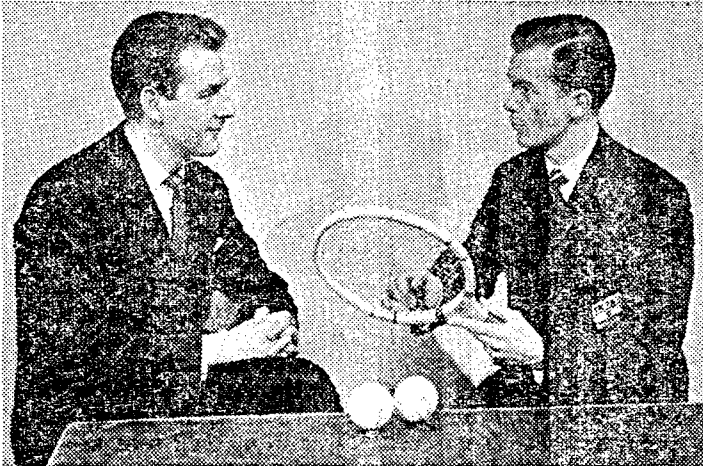


Digging for their money. A scene from *The Treasure Seekers*

MANY viewers still remember E. Nesbit's *The Railway Children*, which was a great success three years ago as a serial in BBC Junior TV. But those who recall the first Nesbit TV serial, *The Treasure Seekers*, must now be grown up. It was produced by Dorothea Brooking in 1953. Next Sunday it is to be revived in a completely new production in six parts.

E. Nesbit, one of the most popular writers for children at the turn of the century, built *The Treasure Seekers* round the fortunes—or rather, misfortunes—of the Bastable family, which has fallen on hard times. All the

Right time to start tennis



Howard Williams (left), Editor of *Lucky Dip*, with David Potter

THE time to get interested in lawn tennis is between the ages of 8 and 11. Then, if you show promise at 11, you have the chance in the next five years to train up to junior championship class.

These are the views of professional coach David Potter, who was due to begin a six-lesson weekly course for young tennis

players on Tuesday in Associated-Rediffusion's *Lucky Dip*. He aims at helping boys and girls who will be taking up tennis at school for the first time this Summer.

David Potter, now coach for the Surrey Lawn Tennis Association, originally set out to be a footballer. But when the Second World War came and he was due for call-up at 18, he guessed, rightly as it turned out, that he would be too old to take up football as a professional by the time the war ended. He has never regretted choosing tennis. Now he fancies his three-year-old daughter Carole is already showing promise—and he has high hopes for four-month-old Simon!

MESSAGE FROM A HANDBAG

FROM ATV I hear that gadget-conscious viewers will be fascinated by the miniature radio transmitter and receiver used by Patrick McGoochan in the *Danger Man*, episode, on Sunday, 5th March.

The transmitter is hidden in a handbag used by Lisa Gastoni so that the *Danger Man* can overhear her conversation with some doubtful characters. He listens on a tiny receiver resembling a cigarette lighter, with an earphone similar to a deaf aid.

This, incidentally, is almost identical with the outfit carried round by floor managers in TV studios to enable them to hear the producer's instructions. Many studio visitors seeing them for the first time with their hearing-aid earphones imagine they are deaf!

children are determined to restore the family wealth, but time after time their exploits come to nothing before a happy ending is reached.

Dora, the eldest girl, is played by Hilary Wyre, and Oswald (who tells the story) by Tony Kloud. Jonathan Collins is Dickie, and Richard Williams and Sara O'Connor are the twins, Noel and Alice, with Mark Mileham as Horatius Octavius. Philip Latham is the financially-worried father. Albert, the next-door neighbour, is played by Christopher Williams. Lord Tottenham, who gets seized by the Bastable dog, is played by Laidman Browne.

THAT SCHOOLBOY AGAIN

Jennings returns in some old favourites

JENNINGS and Darbishire romp back into BBC Children's Hour next Saturday for the first of six weekly repeats of the favourite stories in this most consistently popular of all broadcast series for young people.

Anthony Buckeridge's stories, so familiar to CN readers, have never been forgotten by Children's Hour listeners, although Jennings has not been on the air since 1959. Producer Graham Gauld told me: "We've been swamped with requests. So we've decided to present completely new productions of six famous originals. The oldest one—*The Present for Matron*—dates back to 1950."

Saturday's story, *The Train of Events*, was first heard in 1954. Wilfrid Babbage and Geoffrey Wincott are back as Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Carter, but two new boys

play Jennings and Darbishire. Both 13, they are Hugh Janes as Jennings and Adrian Walker as his friend.

Graham Gauld and Anthony Buckeridge auditioned 25 boys for the parts. Said Graham: "Hugh and Adrian were the first two boys we heard. We liked them at once but, to be perfectly fair, we heard all the other boys as well. Hugh and Adrian still won our vote. They are close friends in real life, both from the Italia Conti stage school."

Here are the other stories to be broadcast, with their original dates in brackets: *The Furtive Feasters* (1954), *Darbishire Takes the Plunge* (1953), *The Scientific Frogman* (1954), *The Present for Matron* (1950), and *Thanks to Jennings* (1955).

Stop Press: A new Jennings serial begins shortly in the CN.

Two chances to see the eclipse of the Sun

VIEWERS who were not up this Wednesday morning at 7.15 for the Eurovision experiment in showing the eclipse of the Sun, can see a recording of this remarkable broadcast at 9.30 in the evening.

The total eclipse (it is only partial in Britain) begins shortly after dawn in the Bay of Biscay. As the Moon's shadow races across Southern Europe at several thousand miles an hour, TV units in France, Italy, and Yugoslavia plan to show in succession the Sun's disc for the short period

while it is totally eclipsed. BBC viewers will thus have three chances of seeing the total eclipse from sites hundreds of miles apart.

Tom Margerison introduces the programme from Selsey Bill in Sussex. The astronomer commentators are Hugh Butler in France, Colin Ronan in Italy, and Patrick Moore in Yugoslavia.

The repeat broadcast in the evening is expected to include an additional excitement in film taken from a high-flying aircraft of the eclipse itself and of the Moon's shadow racing over the Earth.

WHEN THE ROMANS SAILED AWAY FROM BRITAIN

MARIUS GORING has the leading part as Aquila, a young Roman officer, in *The Lantern Bearers*, a new BBC Children's Hour serial beginning next Sunday.

Adapted by Felix Felton from the book by Rosemary Sutcliff, it is an exciting chronicle covering the turbulent times when the Roman legions finally sailed from Britain, leaving the inhabitants at the mercy of Saxon invaders. Aquila decides at the last moment that his loyalties lie with Britain, only to have all he loves destroyed by the invaders. He is taken prisoner and has the mortification of seeing his sister married to a Saxon.

David Davis is the producer.



Marius Goring

Return to the Dupré home

Chez les Dupré, which began as a dramatised French lesson in Associated-Rediffusion schools programmes, and won its way through to the adult programmes in the evenings, has scored a big success.

As a result, a second series at 6.45 p.m. begins on ITV on 2nd March. Marie France and Jean Driant will be back as Nicole and

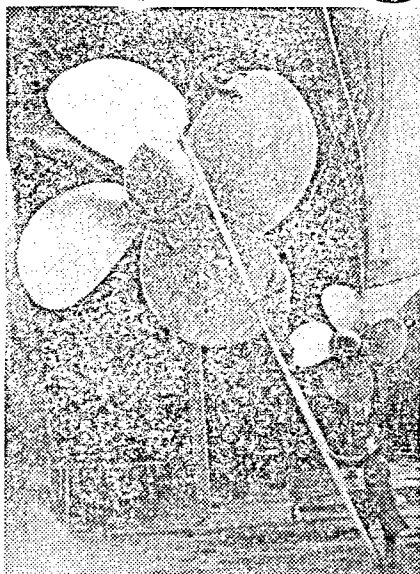
François, with Elma Soiron as Madame Dupré and Henry de Bray as Grand-père.

Nearly 40,000 *French by Television* booklets published by Associated-Rediffusion have been sold to help viewers make the most of the present series, which ends on 23rd February. A second booklet is being prepared for the new series.

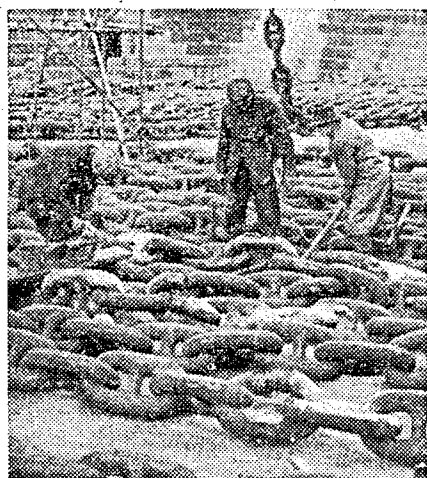
Four visits to St Dominic's

WHICH school story has proved the most enduring? Many would say Talbot Baines Reed's *The Fifth Form at St. Dominic's*. Barbara Hammond is producing a four-part version which begins in BBC Junior TV next Tuesday. The story, written about 70 years ago, is about friends and foes in a public school.

Spring-clean for a giant liner



Clean-up for one of the propellers



Inspection of the huge anchor chain



Inside one of the propeller shafts

BIGGEST liner in the world, the 83,673-ton *Queen Elizabeth* is now in dry dock at Southampton, undergoing the first half of her annual overhaul. This is a gigantic task that will take six weeks and will not be completed until 8th March.

Some idea of its magnitude can be gauged from the fact that the underwater parts of her hull, an area of more than 15,000 square yards, have to be scaled and painted.

While this is going on, the three 16-ton anchors and their chain cables, each 330 feet long and weighing 100 tons, are laid out on the dock floor. The four 32-ton propellers are examined, and the two pairs of stabilising fins get an extensive overhaul. The rudder undergoes an air pressure test to ensure there are no leaks. It weighs 140 tons and is so big that it can be inspected internally by the engineers, who get in through a door in the side.

Huge stocktaking

On board the *Queen Elizabeth* there is checking and stocktaking on an enormous scale. An army of 600 men get busy overhauling the passenger accommodation. Thousands of square feet of panelling have to be polished, table-tops renovated, hundreds of mirrors re-silvered.

All 37 public rooms and state-rooms are stripped, and some 13,000 curtains, bedspreads, and loose covers, as well as 2,500 carpets, sent ashore for cleaning.

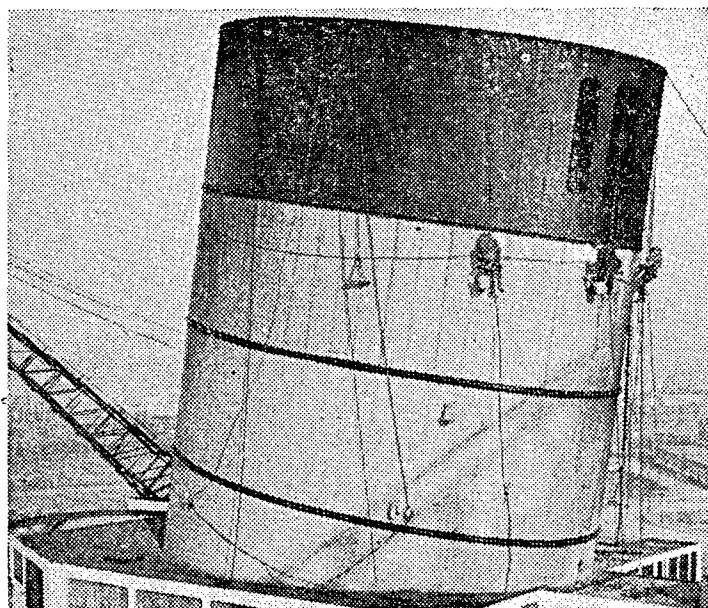
Checking the china, glassware, and cutlery is another huge job, for it means counting 21,000 plates, 8,500 cups, 7,000 saucers, 26,000 pieces of glassware, 25,000 knives and forks, and 6,750 spoons.

The entire electrical installation—sufficient to light a town the size of Canterbury—is surveyed throughout. Miles of ventilation trunking have to be "swept" with giant vacuum cleaners.

Nothing overlooked

Down in the engine-room, the 160,000-h.p. main propelling machinery is opened up for examination and the 257,000 blades of the main turbines individually inspected. Another mammoth task is cleaning the 160,000 tubes of the liner's 12 enormous boilers.

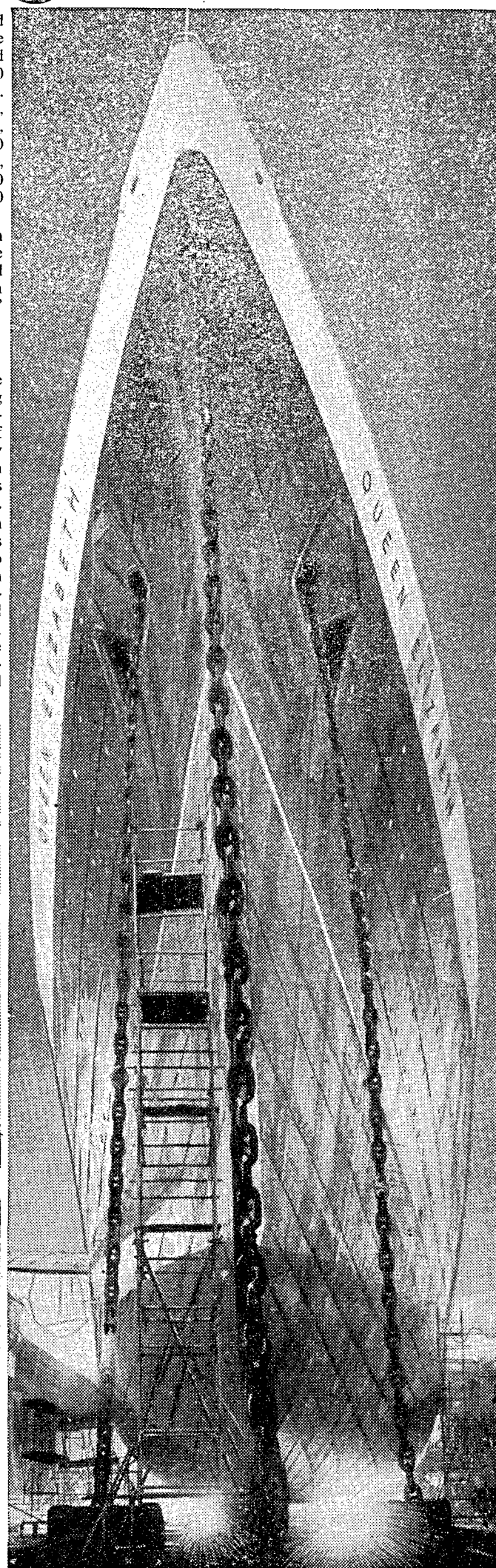
From stem to stern, from funnel-top to keel, nothing is overlooked—even the potato peelers and mincing machines in the kitchens do not escape attention. But it is all necessary and well worth while. By 8th March the *Queen Elizabeth* will have the spick-and-span appearance befitting the bearer of so proud and honoured a name.



Scouring one of the mighty funnels ready for repainting



Liner out of water—work on the hull of the *Queen Elizabeth* as she lies in dry dock at Southampton



Streamlined for speed—the bows of an ocean greyhound

TOWN UNDER THE ICE

MORE than 100 American scientists and technicians are spending the Winter in a town under the Arctic ice-cap. They moved there in October when this strange nuclear-powered town, called Camp Century, was completed.

Camp Century is in Greenland, about 800 miles from the North Pole. Built by engineers of the United States Army under an agreement with the Danish Government, it enables men to live and work comfortably in the Arctic all the year round.

The scientists there are studying weather conditions in one of the most severe climates on Earth. Greenland is the birthplace of weather for much of the Northern Hemisphere. By drilling deep into the ice-cap, samples of ice formed hundreds, even thousands, of years ago can be brought to the surface and analysed. In the content and

structure of these ice samples the history of snowfall and weather for many centuries has been preserved. "This information will enable us to make fairly accurate predictions on future weather cycles," says Dr. Henry Bader, a prominent U.S. scientist.

During the dark polar Winter the men of Camp Century will stay underground for six months, except to make occasional field tests on the surface of the ice-cap. Winter snows will add another metre to the depth of the glacier, which is estimated to be already more than 1,500 metres thick.

Tunnels criss-crossing like city streets

Camp Century consists of 21 tunnels in the ice-cap, criss-crossing one another like city streets. Inside these snow tunnels are 30 prefabricated wooden buildings, including research laboratories, living quarters, chapel, library, and atomic power plant. Huge garage doors at each end of the main street serve as entrances. There are also escape hatchways in case of emergency.

The camp was built by digging deep trenches which were then roofed with corrugated steel. The roofing was covered with a blanket of snow which had been removed from below.

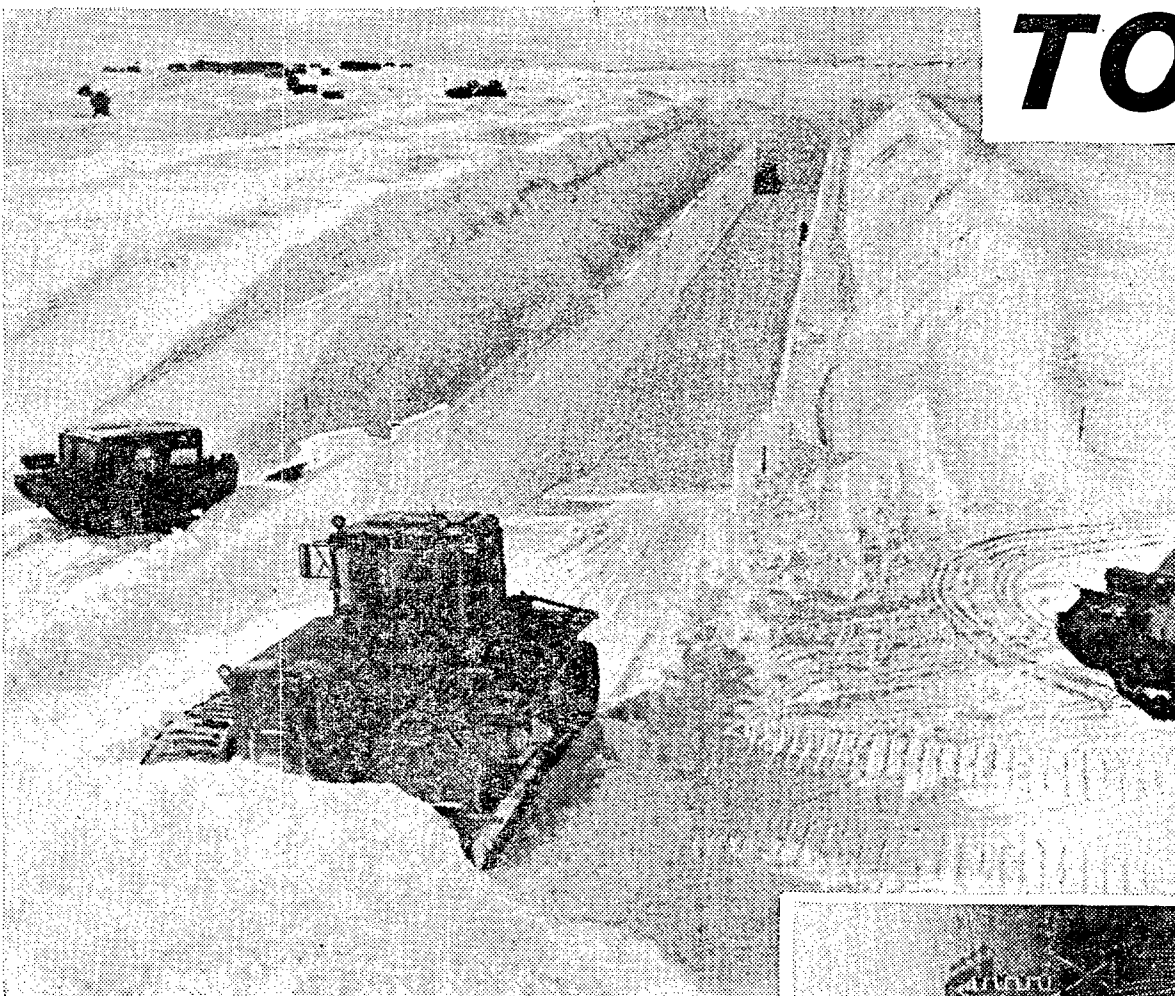
Until now the problem of supplying heat and power under such adverse conditions has been an obstacle to sustained and effective Arctic research. At Camp Century this has been solved by installing a nuclear reactor which generates 2,000 kilowatts of electric power and operates for a year on a single loading of fuel. The reactor eliminates the need for hauling enormous quantities of fuel oil that would be required by a conventional power plant.

Methods for finding hidden dangers

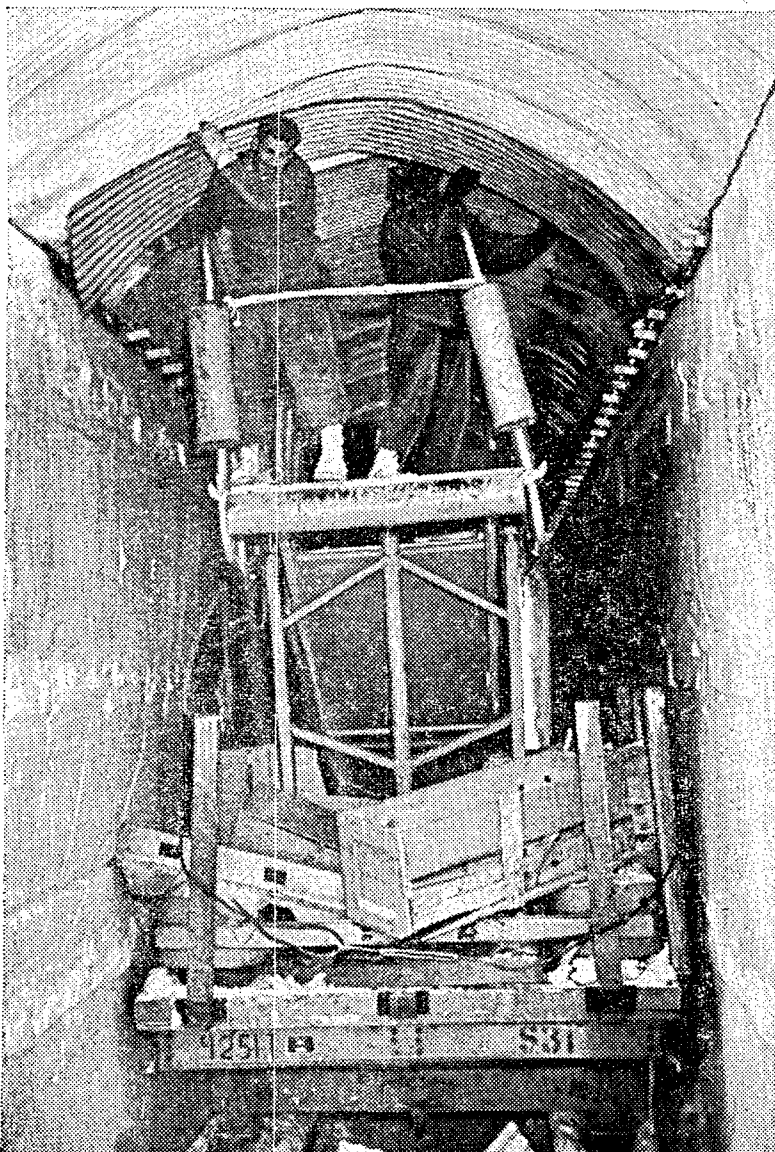
A reactor similar to this one will be operating by 1962 on the other side of the world—at the U.S. base in the Antarctic. It will provide power for the research programme at McMurdo Sound, Antarctica.

Among the tests and experiments to be conducted at Camp Century are: reliable methods of detecting and locating crevasses, the dangerous, hidden crevices which form on the ice-cap; snow-drift studies; deep drilling for ice cores 1,000 years old and more; new aerial photo techniques; and of course, constant observation and testing of the facilities of Camp Century itself—for the way in which 100 men can live beneath the ice-cap is Camp Century's biggest experiment.

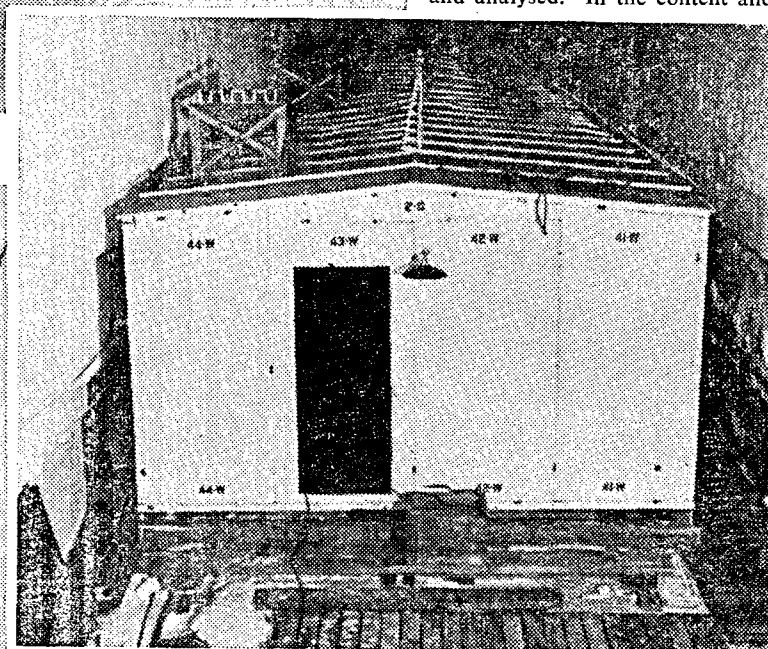
In the building of the camp the scientists and technicians have already found solutions to a number of difficulties encountered in this very cold region.



The construction of Camp Century began with snow ploughs digging long trenches in the ice-cap.



Engineers removed the steel roofing after the snow above had frozen, leaving a white archway.



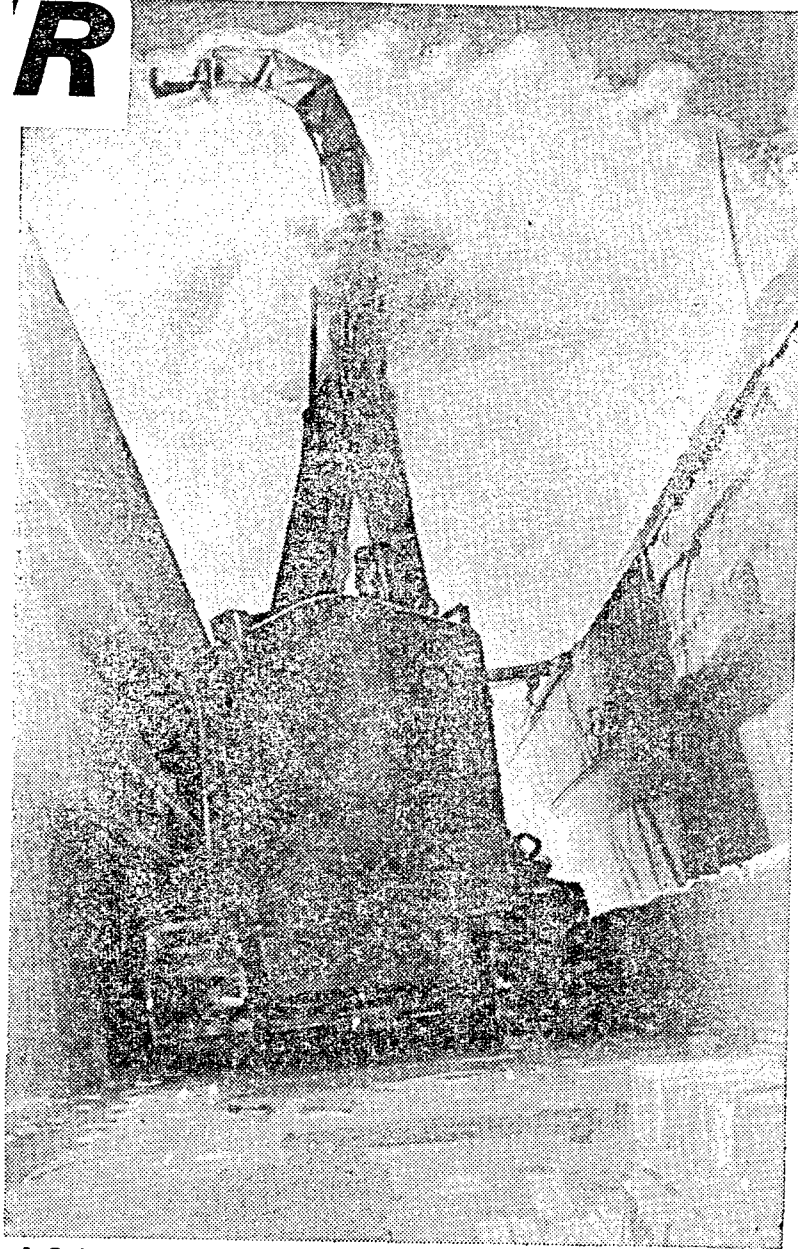
There are 30 buildings like this in Camp Century, including living quarters, laboratories, chapel, library, and laundry.



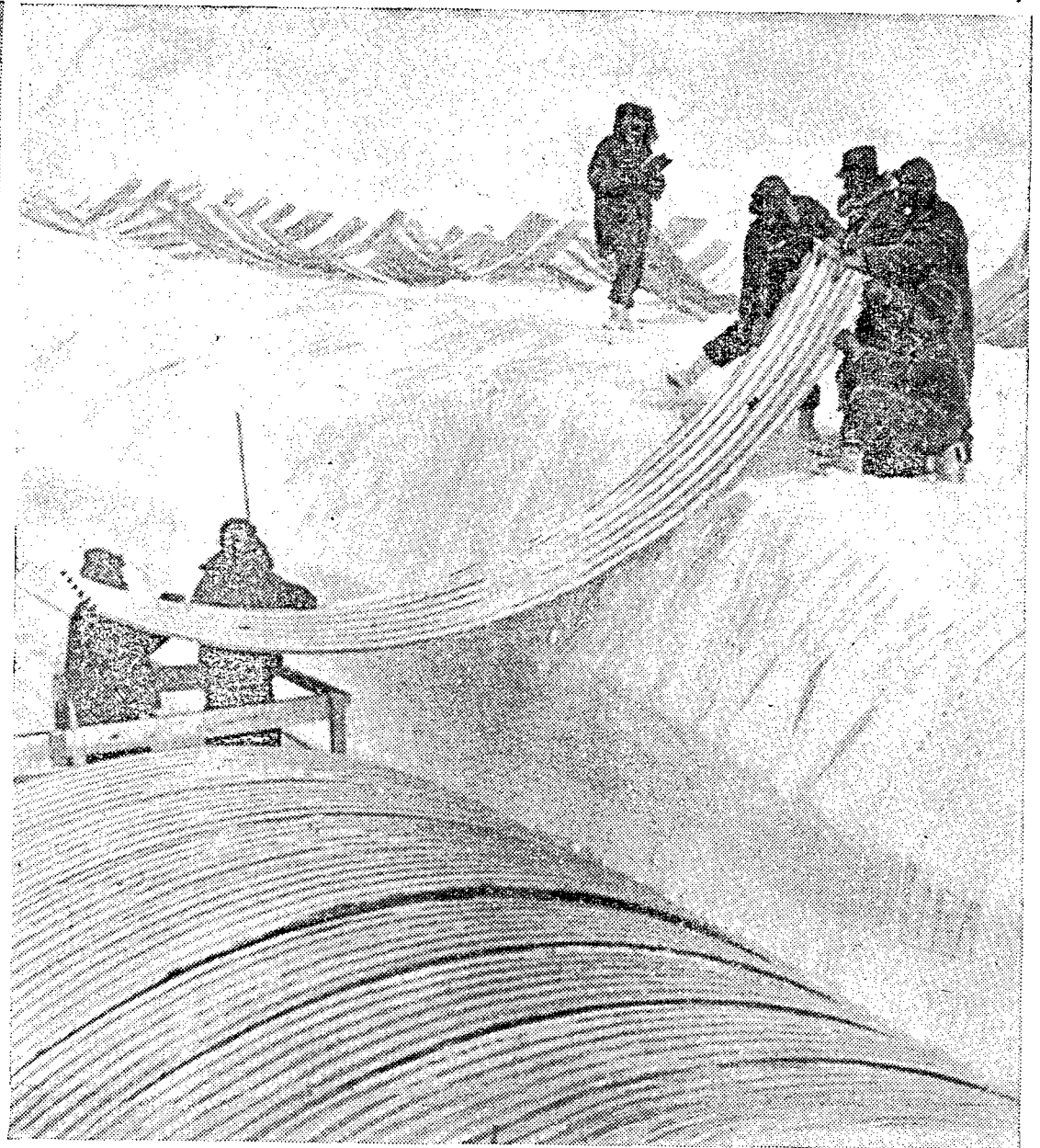
Men climbing into one of the camp's entrances—an emergency hatchway projecting from a desolate Arctic snow-field.

er, 18th February, 1961

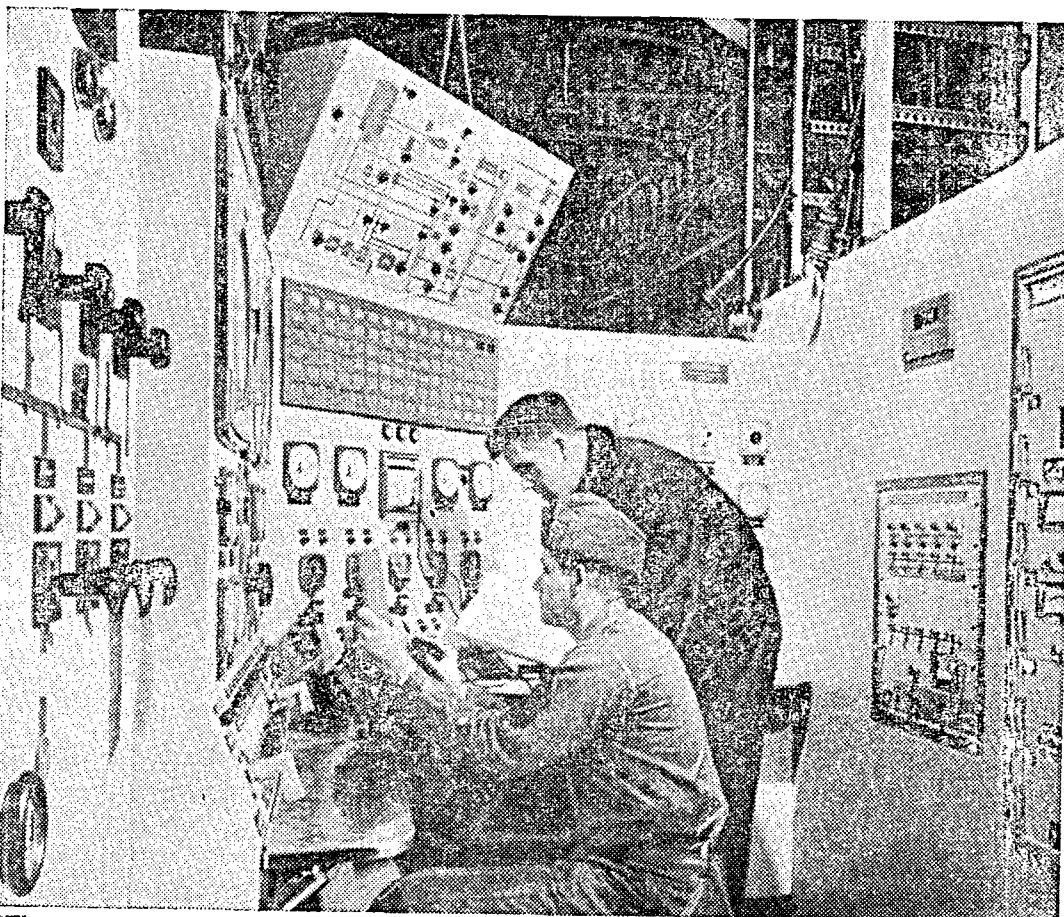
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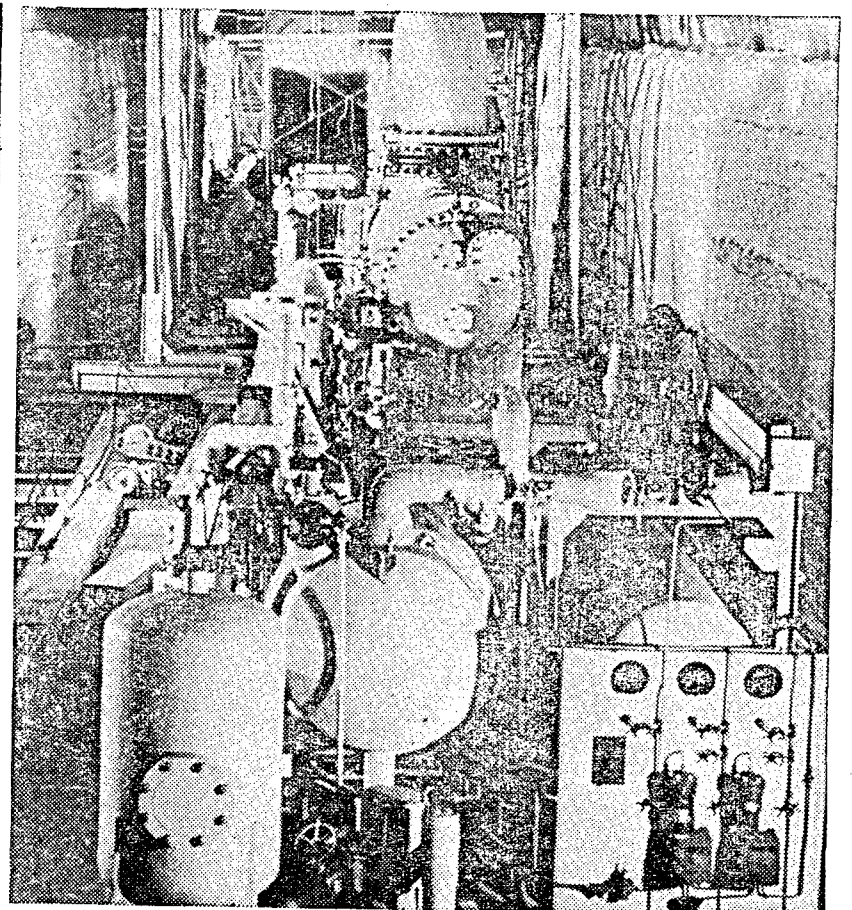
A Swiss machine digging a street in the camp. It discharges snow overhead through a long chute.



The corrugated roof being placed in position before snow was sprayed on it. Pipes at regular intervals left holes in the roof for wiring and plumbing.



The control panels of the nuclear reactor, which supplies the camp with light and heat. The reactor operates for a whole year on one loading of uranium fuel.



The great nuclear reactor, which in addition to heat and light, supplies steam for melting snow, thus providing water for all the needs of the men in this town.

ANIMALS ON THE DANGER LIST

DURING the past two thousand years no fewer than 106 different kinds of mammal have become extinct. They include the aurochs, the ancient wild bull of Europe; the quagga, a zebra-like animal of South Africa; and Steller's sea-cow, a curious aquatic animal related to the present-day dugong.

Thirty-three of these animals disappeared before the 18th century, another 33 between 1700 and 1900, and no fewer than 40 during the present century. What is more, the process of extinction continues; there are several mammals about which we cannot at the moment be sure whether they are extinct or not.

Naturalists are disturbed at the thought of any more animals at all

tect those in serious danger of extinction. The present chairman of the Survival Service is Lieut.-Col. C. L. Boyle, Secretary of the Fauna Preservation Society, whose offices are at the London Zoo in Regent's Park.

At a meeting in Poland last year the Survival Service decided to classify rare animals into three categories, or schedules: (1) Those needing very urgent attention because they are in serious danger of extinction; (2) those for which measures to avert their extinction have already been taken; (3) those whose status should be watched.

Animals only qualify for inclusion in Schedule 1, those in urgent need of protection, if there are fewer than 1,000 of them in the world, and if their number is believed to be declining. At present there are 21 mammals on this schedule, listed as being in extreme danger of extinction.

Rare rhinos

Six of them are deer or antelopes of various kinds: two oryxes, the Arabian and the scimitar-horned; the brow-antlered deer from Manipur in India; the Kashmir stag, closely related to our own red deer; the Mesopotamian fallow deer; and the addax, a North African antelope. Other hoofed animals include the Persian wild ass; the markhor, an Asiatic wild goat; and the wild goat of Crete.

Then there are two kinds of rhino—the Javan, which has one horn, and is virtually confined now to one quite small corner of the Indonesian island of Java; and the Sumatran, which has two horns, and is scattered in very small numbers over a wide area of south-eastern Asia. Besides Sumatra itself, where very few indeed are left, it is found in Borneo, Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. Since the recent fighting in Laos there has naturally been additional

reason to fear for the survival of the two-horned rhinos in that country.

The remainder of the animals on the danger list are a very mixed lot. There are two kinds of seal—the Caribbean monk seal and the Guadalupe fur seal. Marsupials, the primitive Australian mammals which carry their young in a pouch, like the kangaroo, are represented by the thylacine or Tasmanian wolf, the largest known carnivorous marsupial. The Spanish lynx is on the list, and so are the aye-aye, a primitive monkey-like animal of Madagascar, the black-footed ferret, and two solenodons, shrew-like animals of the West Indies.

RICHARD FITTER

WELCOME TO ROME



A huge statue of the great Italian artist and inventor, Leonardo da Vinci, has been set up at Rome's new airport. It is 100 feet high.



The addax of North Africa

becoming extinct, if only because once an animal has gone for good we can never know what we might have learned from a study of its life history and habits.

Accordingly, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature has set up a Survival Service, whose job it is to keep track of rare animals and birds, and to see that something is done to pro-

ON RECORD

New discs to note

DON ARROL: *Ev'rybody Likes It* on Decca F11318. This likeable

young man has become familiar to everyone through his television appearances. His cheerful air and warm personality are just as



apparent on this, his first recording, which should win him more new friends. (45. 6s.)

FELIX SLATKIN ORCHESTRA: *The Sundowners* on London HLG9256. Plucked strings and a piano are used for an unusual theme in a new film about Australia. The orchestra is supplemented by a chorus to make a well-produced recording. (45. 6s. 4d.)

GREGORY STRINGS AND VOICES: *The Third Man Theme* on Fontana H289. In this record, too, plucked strings are prominent and indeed there seems to be a trend towards the use of them at the moment. This is, of course, the tune used during the television series but Johnny Gregory has given it a cha-cha rhythm. This is beautifully played. (45. 6s. 4d.)

JOSH MACRAE: *Messing About On The River* on Pye 7N15319. Anyone who likes rivers and boats will enjoy this gentle song of Josh Macrae's. (45. 6s. 4d.)

LOS INDIOS: *India Morena* on Fontana TFE17261. The music of this Paraguayan group is irresistible, and once the listener has heard one of their recordings he wants to go on collecting more. Los Indios have taken the folk music of South America and, adding only their individual style, have made it enormously popular all over the world. (EP. 12s. 3d.)

JOHANN STRAUSS: *Graduation Ball* on Decca LXT5610. This enchanting ballet suite has become a great favourite. It consists of various pieces written for the story of a Ball in a Viennese finishing school. The mood is gay throughout as would be expected from the Vienna Philharmonic and their conductor Willi Boskovsky. (LP. 38s. 1½d.)

WOLF-FERRARI: *Selection* on Decca CEP688. Nello Santi conducts the Paris Conservatoire Orchestra for this selection of four favourites by Wolf-Ferrari, including the Intermezzo from "School For Fathers." This would be an important and delightful part of any record collection. (EP. 14s. 7d.)

HUGHIE GREEN: *The Puppet Song* on Decca F11317. The well-known radio and television personality, Hughie Green, has a very pleasant voice and a sympa-



thetic approach to this story of the puppet-maker and his dream of hearing his creations sing to him. (45. 6s.)

DAVID EDE: *Bootnik* on Pye 7N15329. A twangy guitar takes the big share of this beat number, played by the David Ede Band, who are heard regularly in the successful *Go Man Go* radio programme. (45. 6s. 4d.)

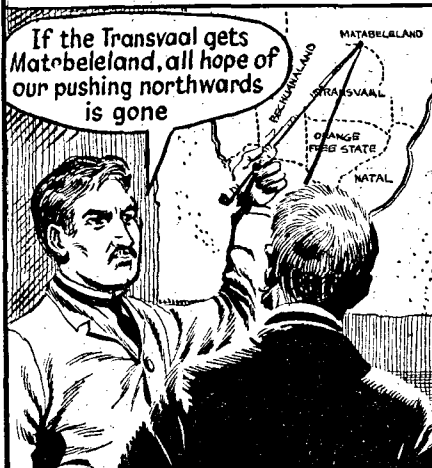
CENTRAL AFRICAN PIONEER—the story of Cecil Rhodes (8)

Fabulously rich from his mining interests, Rhodes was anxious to use his wealth to extend

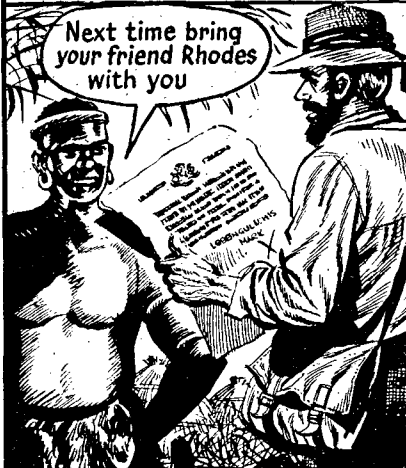
British influence in Africa. In pursuing his aims and ideals, he had long sought the friendship of

the Boers, but at every step found himself opposed by Kruger, President of the Transvaal Republic.

RHODES HEARD THAT KRUGER WAS TRYING TO MAKE A TREATY WITH LOBENGULA, KING OF THE MATABELE TO THWART THE BRITISH



AT RHODES'S SUGGESTION, MR. MOFFAT, SON OF A FAMOUS MISSIONARY, WAS SENT TO MAKE A TREATY WITH LOBENGULA



RHODES RECRUITED PIONEERS TO SETTLE IN MATABELELAND



HE BECAME PRIME MINISTER OF CAPE PROVINCE, BUT DECIDED TO FOLLOW HIS PIONEER COLUMN NORTH. HIS TRANSPORT BROKE DOWN AND HE WAS ATTACKED BY A LION WHILE SEEKING HELP



THERE IS MORE TROUBLE AHEAD IN RHODES' CAREER. SEE NEXT WEEK'S INSTALMENT

THE CONWAYS TAKE COVER

by Geoffrey Morgan

Imprisoned in the old pump-house close to Stavelly Creek through the treachery of Thompson, the coastguard, whom they now know is working with Bredon and his gang, Fergie and the Conways set about finding a way out before the night tide fills the marsh drainage ditch and water pours down through the outfall and floods the underground room in which they are trapped. Jerry suggests that one of them should try to crawl through the outfall pipe into the ditch, and they draw for the job with matchsticks. Jerry wins, and begins his journey.

19. Rescue—and attack!

HAULING himself carefully over the jagged lip of the opening, Jerry moved slowly on all fours into the wet, musty darkness of the pipe. As he crawled up the smooth inside of the gently-rising cylinder, his knees and hands splashing through the little stream of water still trickling down, the voices of Jane and Fergie calling words of encouragement from the opening behind him were gradually lost in the splashing sound of the water and echoing scrape of the toes of his shoes on the metal surface.

He progressed slowly. The air became more foul, the darkness seemed blacker, and at intervals the ribs where the lengths of pipe were joined grazed his head, but he was determined to get to the other end and, in any case, he knew he could not turn round even if he wanted to go back. Twice he had to scrape away with his hands a partial blockage of weed and mud, but he was thank-

below the top. A few moments later he was standing on the bank, breathing deeply and surveying his surroundings.

There was a slight disturbance of the water at the sluice, but the gates did not bother him now. He was more anxious to ensure that no one was at the cottage and, bending low, he ran a few paces towards the creek until the house was in view. But there was no one there, and the track was deserted. As far as he could see all around nothing moved except seagulls above the marsh. He ran to the pumphouse.

The door was heavy, but the lock was out of order. One stout push and he was inside the engine-room. Amid the clutter of old machinery all his attention was centred on the big drum filled with scraps of metal which stood firmly on the trap near the farther wall.

Out of their prison

He shouted down through the grille in the floor as he passed, and heard the answering cries of congratulation from Jane and Fergie. A few perspiring moments shifting the drum, and then the trap was open and he was helping out first Jane and then Fergie.

They lost no time in moving out into the fresh air, and after questioning Jerry about his hazardous escape, Fergie suggested going to the nearest house to telephone the police. It was then that Jane pointed out a figure, cycling across the uneven track towards the cottage.

"Who is it? Not one of those horrible men?" she asked anxiously.

a lift. When I boarded the *Mirelda* and saw your note I scented something more between the lines, so I borrowed Fergie's cycle, stowed it in the dinghy, and crossed the river. I've been cycling along tracks ever since, and I'm still wondering what it's all about."

"Did you notice if there was a yacht moored off Gullmarsh when you crossed the river?" Jerry asked.

"Yes." He brought his attention back to them. "From the distance she looked like a ketch. I suppose she's the charter boat Dr. Bredon mentioned."

"That's right," Jerry said excitedly. "And it means we're not too late. They haven't got away yet."

"We'd better get on to the police pretty quick," Fergie said urgently.

"What is all this?" Amos frowned darkly.

"We've just been trapped in the old pumphouse—nearly drowned!" Jane blurted out.

"It's Bredon and his gang," Jerry said. And they all started to tell Amos the story; but he hushed them, and told Jerry to continue without delay.

Amos gets the facts

The boy gave a rushed report of the essential facts, and these were sufficient to move Amos to instant action.

"You can fill in the rest as we go along, Jerry," he said. "We've no time to stand about here. You came in Fergie's dinghy?"

They nodded.

"Good. Where is she?"

"Just a little way down the creek, in the saltings," Fergie pointed. "And we brought the outboard."

"Good," Amos repeated. "But we can't do much on our own. Not against men as desperate as that. So this is the plan . . ."

He suggested that Fergie should take his cycle and make at once for the nearest house and telephone the police, while Jane, Jerry, and himself took the dinghy and sailed round to Gullmarsh Island and set the yacht adrift. If they were too late to achieve this, they could at least keep the vessel and the gang under observation until the police arrived.

Towards Gullmarsh Island

Fergie took his bicycle and set off at once along the track, and Amos and the Conways sprinted in the opposite direction towards *Whisper's* hiding-place.

Under the powerful outboard motor they swept down the creek and round into the river, and as they headed up towards the island they noted the ketch was not only on her mooring, but still appeared to be deserted. There was none of the activity they had expected



Jerry wormed himself out on to the edge of the pipe

to see at the jetty, but the marker buoy had gone.

When Amos altered course towards the yacht they heard the plane. It was a light single-engined aircraft and came in low over the river, banking towards the other end of the island. Soon, it was levelling out and pointing down to the island itself, obviously coming into land.

"So that's the way they're going!" Jerry exclaimed. "By plane!"

Amos turned the dinghy for the island shore, but the aircraft had already landed by the time the boat's keel touched the strip of sand, and they could hear the engine running just beyond the house. They climbed the bank

and sprinted through into the garden and as they reached the renovated cottage the plane began to taxi away. The house was deserted, and across the strip of lawn on the other side, stood Bredon's Land Rover.

"Even leaving all their property behind," Amos grunted, as they raced over the grass.

"Why should they worry if they've got the gold?" Jerry panted.

The aircraft was already lining itself up on the runway formed by a stretch of specially laid steel netting, and they could see faces at the cabin windows.

Amos opened the door of the Land Rover and jumped in.

Continued on page 10

JENNINGS and DARBISHIRE
the popular Linbury Court schoolboys
will soon be back in another new
series of amusing misadventures

ful that the water appeared to have ceased altogether.

After he had cleared and passed the remains of the second blockage, he saw a glimmer of light ahead. He crawled on faster, and rounding a slight curve nearly cried out in relief when he saw the roundel of daylight not ten yards distant.

He covered the last few feet even faster, grazing his knees and hands in a final effort, and at last his head was out in the air and he was drawing great gulps of it, with the level of the water in the ditch not more than a few inches below him.

The end of the pipe was supported on a concrete pile built up from the side of the drain, and he wormed himself out on to the edge of this and jumped for the sloping bank two or three feet

They stared in the direction she had pointed, and before the cyclist reached the cottage Jerry was throwing up his hands in delight.

"It's Amos!" he cried, and cupping his hands to his mouth, he shouted: "Skipper—ahoy! Ahoy—there!"

His two companions, dumb-founded with surprise, eventually joined in the welcome, and they raced to the track alongside the creek as Amos rode past the cottage to meet them.

"It's my bike!" Fergie laughed as Amos dismounted.

"Are we glad to see you!" exclaimed Jane.

"You're back early," Jerry smiled. "And a good thing, too!"

"I met Peters in London," Amos explained. "He was coming back by car and offered me

The Young Overlanders

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WORLD OF STAMPS

Helping hand for children in need

WAR always brings untold suffering, to victors and vanquished alike, but nothing is sadder than the suffering it brings to helpless children. In the Second World War this suffering was greater than ever before; millions of children lost their homes or were separated from their parents; millions were in need of food, clothing, and shelter.

When the war ended, the United Nations set to work specially to help children in the devastated areas. A special organisation, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, known as Unicef, was created.

The United Nations realised, of course, that it was not only children in countries made poor by war who needed help. All over the world, especially in Asia, Africa, and South America, there are countries too poor to provide a healthy, happy life for their children. Unicef now helps these countries.

First of all it sends food, particularly milk and fats, to areas where there is a shortage. Next, it insists that every country receiving help shall match the Unicef contribution with supplies from its own food stocks.

In many backward countries teams of doctors and nurses sent

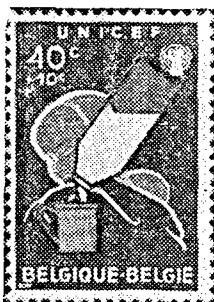
For all this work Unicef needs money—millions of pounds—and many countries have rallied to this great cause. Belgium, for instance, has just issued a special series of stamps, each with a charity premium above its face value. The designs of the new stamps show various Unicef activities. Haiti, the Negro republic in the West Indies, has also issued a series of



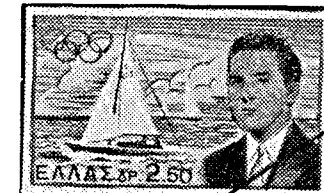
three stamps in aid of Unicef funds.

Although most of the United Nations special agencies have been honoured by United Nations stamps, only one stamp has so far paid tribute to Unicef. This is a blue 5-cents value in the regular UN series and shows an adult's hand holding that of a little child.

At the Olympic Games last year Crown Prince Constantine of Greece won his country's only



by Unicef are fighting the diseases which threaten children. Teachers of hygiene, too, are sent to show mothers how to take proper care of their babies.



gold medal. This was for yachting, in the Dragons class, and to celebrate the victory, the Greek Post Office has now issued a commemorative stamp. It shows

PRETTY PAIR



Two Puma cubs, Roger and Rae, which were born at the London Zoo just before Christmas. They were a month old when first brought out to face the camera.

racing yachts and a portrait of the Prince, who will be 21 in June.

AMONG stamps planned for issue later this year are several interesting series from Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Hungary is preparing eight stamps depicting useful garden herbs, and other issues will feature children's sports peasant costumes, and wild birds.

Butterflies, fruit, and more sports will appear on new Czechoslovak series, while both countries will be issuing portrait stamps in honour of some of their famous men.

C. W. HILL

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THE CONWAYS TAKE COVER

Continued from page 9

"Wait for me here," he ordered, but before he could start the engine, they leaped in beside him.

"If you're going to ram their kite, we're with you!" Jerry said.

The plane began its run and there was no time to argue. Amos let in the clutch and, crashing through the gears, drove across the rough ground to head off his moving target.

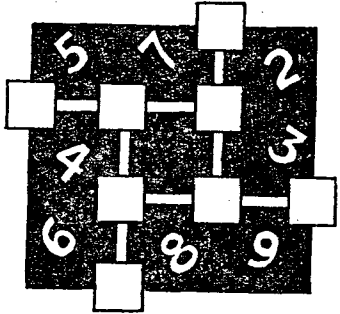
They came up on the runway broadside on to the aircraft, and Amos swung the tough, square snout of the Land Rover towards the plane's tail.

"Duck!" he shouted, and instantly, there was a rending crash.

To be concluded

PUZZLE PARADE

Figures in space



CAN you put the figures into the squares so that no matter in which direction the figures are added, each line will total 15?

Jumbled football teams

Here are the jumbled names of ten English League football teams. As a clue, each correct name begins with the same letter; now see how quickly you can sort them out.

Ruyblen; plokbozal; tolnob; mentohrubuo; yurb; learnsby; brunbackl; thignorb; dorntferb; worbar.

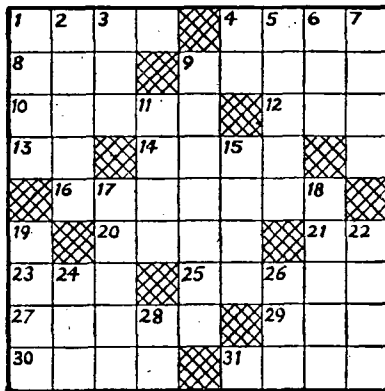
WHAT AM I?

My first is in trumpet but not in band,
My second's in finger, but not in hand.
My third is in apple and also in pear,
My fourth is in front but not in rear.
My fifth is in honey but not in bees;
My whole is fitted with dozens of keys.

Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Tiller. 4 Trudge. 8 Female sheep. 9 Flat, level surface. 10 Royal. 12 Afternoon meal. 13 Alternative. 14 Thin, narrow strip of wood. 16 Dog. 20 Employed. 21 Old Testament. 23 Used for rowing. 25 Singer. 27 Inclines. 29 Consumed. 30 Run away. 31 Recess in a church.

READING DOWN. 1 Brave person. 2 Pitchers. 3 Limb. 4 Poet Laureate. 5 Machine for turning metal. 6 Single. 7 Costly. 9 Celestial bodies. 11 Alack. 15 Movement of the sea. 17 Small bag to carry money. 18 Plunders. 19 Out-door game. 22 Oak or ash, for instance. 24 To be ill. 26 Short sleep. 28 Tonic solfa note.



Answer next week

Garden Pirate

DON'T talk to me of Captain Kidd

And of the booty that he hid,
Returning after years at sea
To dig his riches up with glee.
For we've a pirate, too, at home,
Though he has never sailed the foam.

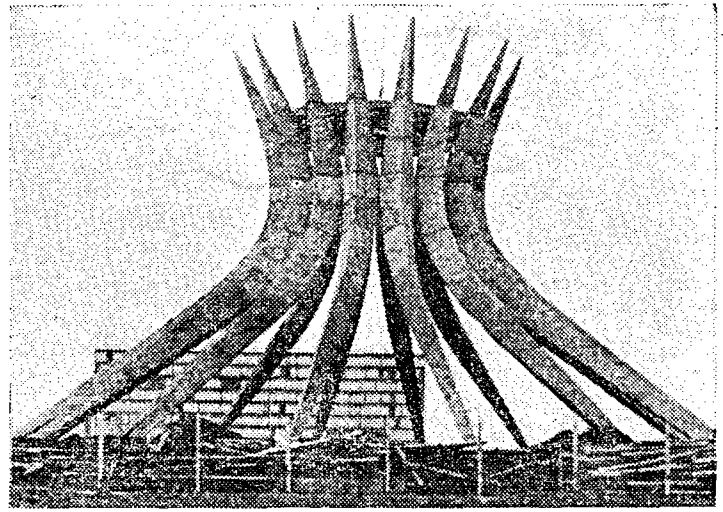
His treasure lies concealed around,
Beneath a crust of garden ground.
He doesn't roam the Spanish Main.

His trips are mostly down the lane;
But back he comes, our pirate bold,
To dig up bones—not plundered gold.

For he's just Spot, our pup, no more,
Who rakes the flower-beds o'er and o'er,

A dog with four destructive feet,
Whose buried hoards are things to eat!

WHAT IS IT?



This strange-looking structure is the shell of a cathedral now rising at Brasilia, the new inland capital of Brazil. It is more than a hundred feet high

Name the States

Below are the names by which some of the States in the U.S.A. are known. Do you know their correct names?

Lone Star State; Sunshine State; Blue Grass State; Empire State; Golden State.

THREE'S COMPANY

In this word puzzle (a) is a clue to a three-letter word which, with another letter added, gives the answer to (b). A further letter is added to make a five-letter answer to clue (c). Example: fee, feet, fleet.

Answers are given in column 3

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. (a) Summit.
(b) Come to a halt.
(c) Bend down. | 4. (a) Tattered cloth.
(b) Bell sounded.
(c) Row of mountains. |
| 2. (a) Is able to.
(b) Long, thin stick.
(c) Weight-lifting machine. | 5. (a) To perform.
(b) Discretion.
(c) Expanse of country. |
| 3. (a) The day before.
(b) Divisible by two.
(c) Occurrence. | 6. (a) Ocean.
(b) Marine animal.
(c) Thief. |

CN Competition No. 7

PRIZES FOR ARTISTS

How clever are you with paints or coloured crayons? Here's your opportunity to show your skill, and perhaps win an art prize which will help you develop your talents!

Entry in this competition is free to all readers under 17 who live in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, or the Channel Islands. For the five best entries "painting-by-numbers" oil painting sets will be awarded—with three pictures for you to colour.

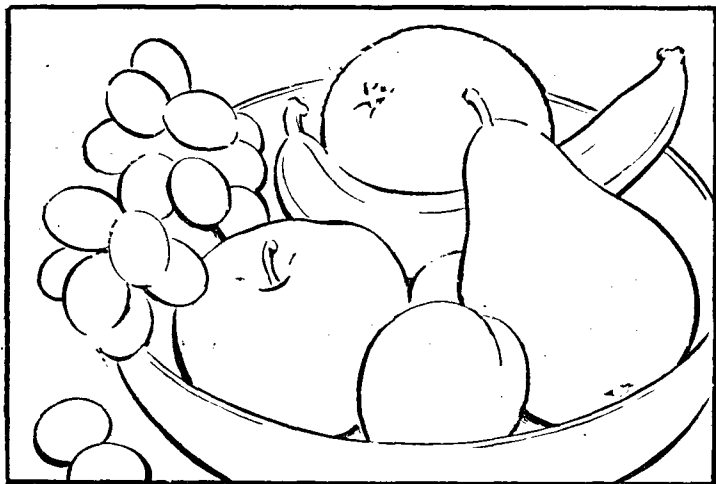
To enter, carefully cut out this picture of a bowl of fruit and paste it on a postcard. When perfectly dry, colour it as imaginatively and neatly as you can, either in water-colour paints or crayons. Write your full name, age, and address alongside, then ask your parent or guardian to sign it as your own work. The card should then be sent to:

CN Competition No. 7,

3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.)

to arrive by Tuesday, 28th February, the closing date.

The oil-painting outfits will be awarded for the five best entries, with full allowance made for age. Decorative plaques, with paints for colouring, will go to the ten next best. The Editor's decision is final!



CHANGED WORD

CAN you change the word CARP into HIND in four stages, altering only one letter at a time?

"Wait and see" said Thrush

ON this February morning a great deal of noisy bird talk was going on in the bushes in the little paddock behind the farmhouse. Presently Wise Thrush stopped snail-hunting in the rockery and went to see what the trouble was.

There, feeding quietly on the rough grass, were three huge white birds, Gander, Goose, and Junior, which the farmer had just bought.

But the Hedgesparrows were cheeping indignantly: "They have no business to take our territory. They will eat every scrap of food in no time."

"With their great beaks they can gobble worms and slugs far

quicker than we can," shrieked the angry Blackbirds.

"And, look! They are rootling after my ants," cried Green Woodpecker in anguish, as he watched Gander digging busily with his bright orange bill.

"Wait!" urged Wise Thrush. "Wait and see." For he had not forgotten that time when he himself had believed that Blackbird was eating the snails from his private hoard, until he found that Blackbird did not know how to smash their shells against a stone to get at the soft inside.

Well, presently the others agreed to wait and see for the rest of the day.

And when Thrush returned the Hedgesparrows cried: "They

haven't taken any of our spiders or insects from beneath the bushes."

"Nor eaten worms or slugs," added the Blackbirds. "They are only eating grass, and we don't want that. We can certainly all live happily together."

Woodpecker, however, did not agree. "They are digging for ants," he persisted.

But another day of wait-and-see showed him that it was not for ants, but for the crunchy bulbs of buttercups that the geese were digging.

So from then onwards the wild birds and the tame geese lived contentedly together.

JANE THORNICROFT

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Figures in space: 6, 942, 375, 8. Jumbled football teams: Burnley; Blackpool; Bolton; Bournemouth; Bury; Barnsley; Blackburn; Brighton; Brentford; Barrow. What am I? Piano.

Changed word: Carp; harp; hard; hand; hind. Name the States: Texas; Florida; Kentucky; New York; California.

THREE'S COMPANY

1 top, stop, stoop. 2 can, cane, crane. 3 eve, even, event. 4 rag, rang, range. 5 act, tact, tract. 6 sea, seal, steal.

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Jean wins trip to Peking

JEAN HARROWER, who once confessed to a C.N. reporter that she preferred football to table tennis, will be going to Peking in April to take part in the world championships (table tennis, not football). The 18-year-old clerk of New Barnet, Hertfordshire, was one of those included in the British team announced recently. The trip will round-off a really



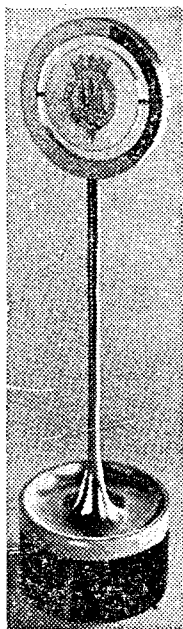
Jean Harrower

busy—and successful—season for Jean. A few weeks ago she and Diane Rowe represented Britain in the Yugoslav championships, in which they won the doubles title and the Hungarian Open, in which Jean reached the final of the singles event.

This season she also won the North of England, Middlesex, and Kent titles, as well as being runner-up in the English Closed championship. She has certainly earned her No. 2 ranking position.

In Peking she will again be partnered by Diane Rowe. The others in the team are Ian Harrison, Jeff Ingber, and Bryan Merrett.

TIDDLEY-WINKS TROPHY



This is the new trophy, commissioned by Prince Philip, which will be awarded to the winners of the Oxford and Cambridge tiddley-winks match. The proceeds of this annual match go to the National Playing Fields Association, of which Prince Philip is president.

Busy programme for British athletes

BRITISH athletes have a tough programme ahead of them this Summer. Five full-scale internationals have been arranged, and small parties will be going to the West Indies, Israel, Yugoslavia, Poland, Finland, and Hungary. There will also be a B match against Switzerland.

The full internationals will be against the United States and Hungary at the White City; against West Germany, Poland, and France abroad. The match against Switzerland will be held at Wimbledon in August.

Announcing these fixtures, Mr. Jack Crump, secretary of the British Amateur Athletics Board, also referred to next year's European Championships in Belgrade.

Although countries will be able to send three competitors for each

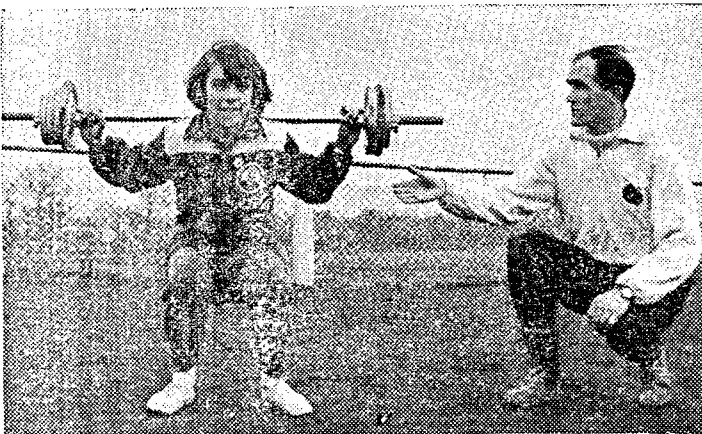
event—as against two in previous years—entries will be limited by the strict qualifications laid down, “more demanding than those at Rome.”

New walking competition

A new walking competition will be held this year. It will consist of two events over 20 kilometres and 50 kilometres, three-men teams entering in each event and the winners being decided on the combined placings in both races.

With such walkers as Stan Vickers, Ken Matthews, and E. Hall in the shorter race, and Don Thompson and Tom Misson in the 50km. event, Britain have an excellent chance of becoming the first holders of the new trophy, the Lugano Cup.

LONG-JUMP COACHING



Harry Stegges, an Honorary Senior Coach of the A.A.A., gives long-jumping tips to a young trainee at Mottspur Park, Surrey.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG RUGBY PLAYER

CAPTAIN of the London Schoolboys rugby team and the unbeaten Surrey Schools XV this season; heavyweight champion and captain of his school boxing team and unbeaten in all last season's inter-school bouts. That is the proud record of 18-year-old Richard Stevens of Dulwich College, London.

Described by an authority as an “outstanding rugby player,” Richard has received the “Best Forward” cup at Dulwich for the past two years. The trophy is awarded on the votes of the First XV players.

Tipping the scales at 13½ stone and towering six feet two, Richard this year intends to enter the A.B.A. National Championships. In October he hopes to become a dental student at Guy's Hospital.

With studies—he has passed six G.C.E. subjects at O level and two at A level—training, and duties as school rugby secretary, Richard has very little free time.

But there are compensations, such as when he reported back to school this term and promptly left the class to lead London Schoolboys on to the rugby field.

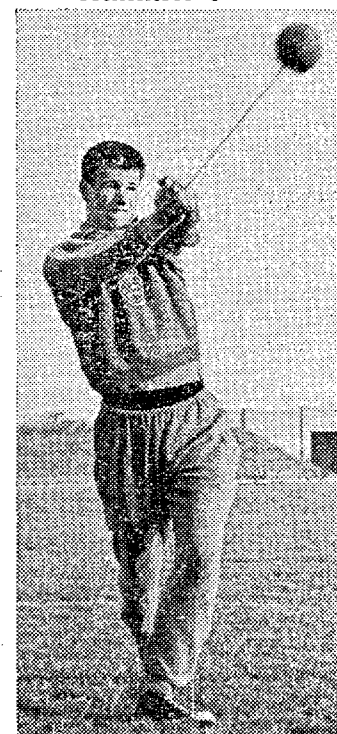
Captain of the Dark Blues

THE 61st annual hockey match between Oxford and Cambridge takes place on Saturday at Hurlingham Park, London.

One of the most versatile players there will be the Dark Blues' captain, Ian David Taylor, an English international and a member of the British Olympic team in Rome last year. Ian spent his early boyhood in Mexico, before returning to St. Edmund's School, Canterbury, and then to St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, where he has gained Blues for athletics and hockey.

At school Ian Taylor proved his all-round sporting ability as captain of hockey, soccer, cricket, and athletics. He has beaten 10 seconds for the 100 yards.

Hammer-throw



Sixteen-year-old John Leigh is Surrey Youths' hammer and javelin champion. Here we see him practising on Mitcham Common.

HIGH HOPES

Three best jumpers to meet

WILL there be a new indoor high-jump record set up on Friday in the Madison Square Garden, New York? It is very likely, for America's John Thomas will be meeting Russia's Robert Shavlakadze and Valeriy Brumel, gold and silver medallists in the Rome Olympics.

Apart from short spells, Americans have dominated world high-jumping for nearly 70 years. But it looks as if that reign may be coming to an end.

In the past two years young John Thomas has been steadily raising the record until last July he set a new height of 7 feet 3½ inches. He seemed certain to win the Olympic gold medal last year. But on the great day he was beaten into third place by the two Russians.

Then, a few weeks ago, 18-year-old Valeriy cleared 7 feet 4½ inches

during an indoor meeting in Leningrad. Indoor achievements cannot count as world records, but Valeriy has already said that by the end of the Summer he will jump 7 feet 5 inches—outdoors.

The three athletes will meet three times in the next fortnight: on 17th and 25th February, and 3rd March.

World cyclo-cross championships

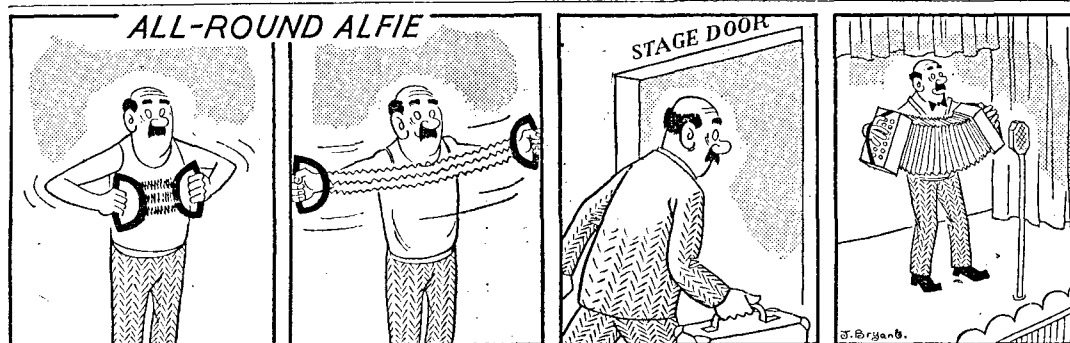
ON Sunday the world cyclo-cross championship will be held over a 24-kilometre course at Hanover.

The British team, consisting of Dave Briggs of Solihull, Paddy Hoban of London, Bill Radford of Wolverhampton, and 17-year-old Coventry rider John Atkins, will find conditions very different from the rugged cyclo-cross courses in this country.

Speed rather than rough-riding

skill will be the dominant factor. The race is run over a lap of the track, six circuits of undulating grassland, and then a final lap of the track.

British teams have never been very successful in world championships, which are open to professional riders as well as amateurs, but the present British team is as strong as any that has represented this country in a world championship.



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